Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 101271 ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH APPROVED BY:S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH

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O 201510Z APR 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE

SECRETSTATE 101271

NODIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT BERLIN 2746 ACTION SECSTATE APR 20

QUOTE S E C R E T BERLIN 02746

NODIS

DEPT PASS AMEMBASSY BONN AND USMISSION USBERLIN

E.O.11652: GDS TAGS: GE, GW

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE PRISONER EXCHANGE INVOLVING ALAN VAN

NORMAN

REF: STATE 101011

1. GDR LAWYER VOGEL LATE AFTERNOON APRIL 19 TELEPHONED DCM, WHOM HE HAD MET AT SEVERAL RECEPTIONS, TO STATE THAT MRS. VOGEL WISHED TO VISIT EMBASSY APRIL 20 IN CONNECTION WITH A VISA APPLICATION FOR VOGEL. MRS. VOGEL MORNING SECRET

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APRIL 20 DELIVERED VISA APPLICATION AND IT WAS AGREED SHE WOULD PICK UP VISA APRIL 24 (VOGELS WILL BE OUT OF TOWN UNTIL THEN). DISCUSSION CONCERNED ONLY VISA APPLICATION AND PICKUP.

2. RE PARA 8 OF REFTEL, EMBASSY HAS NOT YET RECEIVED ORIGINAL CLEMENCY PETITION BUT IS PREPARED TO PROCEED

AS INSTRUCTED IF DEPT. WISHES.

3. RE PARAS 6 AND 10 OF REFTEL, THOMPSON-VAN NORMAN TURNOVER AT CHECKPOINT CHARLIE COULD RESULT IN PUBLIC NOTICE, AND THEREFORE WE THINK THIS ALTERNATIVE SHOULD BE AVOIDED IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. WE ARE INCLINED TO THINK THAT USE OF FRIEDRICHSTRASSE STATION WOULD BE BEST APPROACH IN THAT IT LEAST LIKELY TO ATTRACT PUBLIC ATTENTION, AND VAN NORMAN AND ANYONE WHO MIGHT ACCOMPANY HIM COULD DETRAIN UNCHECKED AND UNNOTICED AT APPROPRIATE STOP IN WEST BERLIN. USE OF VOGEL'S CAR COULD RESULT IN ITS OCCUPANTS BEING CHECKED BY WEST BERLIN CUSTOMOFFICIALS AND THEREFORE PROBABLY NOT DESIRABLE. BOLEM UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: PRISONER EXCHANGE, CAT-B, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, PRISONERS RELEASE

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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Subject: POSSIBLE PRISONER EXCHANGE INVOLVING ALAN VAN NORMAN

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